

ELDA PEMA

Office:

101 Marshall Hall
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI 48824-1038

Fax: 517.432.1068

Web: <http://www.msu.edu/~pemaelda>

Home:

1328 East Grand River Ave., Apt. #11
East Lansing, MI 48823-4934

Phone: 517.324.8934

Mobile: 517.881.5298

E-mail: pemaelda@msu.edu

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Personnel economics, compensation structures, migration of skilled labor, inter-governmental finance.

TEACHING INTERESTS

Labor economics, public policy, taxation and government spending, data management and quantitative research methods, applied econometrics.

EDUCATION

Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan

Ph.D., Economics, May 2003 (expected)

Fields: Labor Economics, Public Economics, and Applied Econometrics.

Dissertation: "Essays on Compensation Structures and Human Capital Migration."

Thesis Advisors: Drs. David Neumark (chair), Charles Ballard, Jeffrey Wooldridge, and Jeff Biddle.

M.A., Economics, 2001

American University in Bulgaria, Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria

B.A., Applied Economics, B.A. Business Administration, 1998 (magna cum laude)

WORKING PAPERS:

- "Internal Labor Markets Revisited: Tournaments in Academia," 2002 (job market paper). Submitted to *The Journal of Political Economy*.
- "Does Experience Represent Human Capital Accumulation?" 2002.
- "Publications Over the Academic Life-cycle: Evidence for Academic Economists," with Onur Baser, April 2001. Submitted to *Economic Letters*.
- "The Return to Publications for Economics Faculty in the Big Ten Universities," with Onur Baser, February 2000.

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS:

- "Do State Tax Differentials Affect the Migration of Human Capital?"
- "Seeking Quality in Post-Secondary Education."
- "The Impact of Income Maintenance Programs on the Decision to Pursue Post-Secondary Education."

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Data Center Coordinator, Department of Economics, Michigan State University, Fall 2001-present

Established the Data Center and formulated its role and range of services. Assisted graduate and advanced undergraduate students with their data needs, provided consultation on data extraction and analysis, organized tutorials on statistical software use for undergraduate students, and administered the Center's funds and resources.

Graduate Research Assistant, Department of Economics, Michigan State University, Fall 2000-Spring 2001

Assisted faculty member in a project investigating health insurance coverage for displaced workers. Extracted, analyzed, and manipulated data from the Current Population Survey. Prepared summary tables and regression results.

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Graduate Research Assistant, Department of Economics, Michigan State University, Summer 1999

Assisted Professor with research study on the transformation of popular attitudes in a transitional economy. Assembled and organized survey data. Prepared diagnostic analysis.

Undergraduate Research Assistant, American University in Bulgaria, Fall 1995-Spring 1997

Coordinated and supervised various student surveys. Collected, entered, and processed data.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Courses Taught

Taxes, Government Spending, and Public Policy

Department of Economics, Michigan State University, Summer 2001.

Designed and taught course on public finance presenting key concepts of government spending and taxation. Explored the operation of the tax system and the function of major spending programs (Social Security, Medicare/Medicaid). Discussed proposed policy changes such as school vouchers and health care reform.

Introductory Macroeconomics

Department of Economics, Michigan State University, Summer 2000.

An introduction to national product, unemployment, inflation, trade, and economic growth.

Teaching Assistantships

Introductory Microeconomics, Intermediate Microeconomics, Money, Banking, and Financial Markets

Led discussion and review sessions and performed administrative duties for courses offered by the Department of Economics, Fall 1998-Spring 2000.

Coordinator of Economics Help Room

Organized tutoring sessions for 2,000 undergraduate students taking Introductory Microeconomics. Assigned duties and supervised other teaching assistants, maintained computing facilities, and coordinated the process of proctoring and grading exams. Spring 1999.

BUSINESS EXPERIENCE

Audit Intern, Deloitte & Touche, Albania, Summer 1998

Participated in the investigation of bankrupt pyramid schemes in Albania. Assisted in the process of asset liquidation through closed-bid tenders, created and maintained a database of the assets for sale, and coordinated the publication of tender advertisements.

Audit Intern, Price Waterhouse, Albania, Summer 1997

Member of the team of auditors in charge of investigating fifteen World Bank projects in Albania. Reviewed procurement and tender procedures and prepared reports summarizing the findings.

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, AND HONORS

Graduate Office Fellowship, Michigan State University

Research and travel grants, 2002.

Dean's Award, College of Social Sciences, Michigan State University

Research grant, 2002.

Howard Neville Fellowship, Economics Department, Michigan State University

Graduate student research fellowship, 1998-1999.

Soros Foundation

Full scholarship for undergraduate study, 1994-1998.

CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

“Essays on Compensation Structures and Human Capital Migration.” Poster presentation. Southern Economic Association Conference, New Orleans, November 2002.

“Internal Labor Markets Revisited: Tournaments in Academia.” Labor Seminar Series, Department of Economics, Michigan State University, June 2002.

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“Academic Publications – Their Reward, Life-Cycle Profile, and Depreciation Over Time: Evidence for Academic Economists in Midwestern Universities.” Midwest Economic Association Meeting, Chicago, March 2002.

“Publications Over the Academic Life-cycle: Evidence for Academic Economists.” Red Cedar Conference, Michigan State University, April 2001.

“The Return to Publications for Economics Faculty in the Big Ten Universities.” Red Cedar Conference, Michigan State University, April 2000.

MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Economic Association

Midwest Economic Association

Southern Economic Association

Committee on the Status of Women in the Economics Profession

COMMITTEES

Computer Committee, Graduate Student Representative, Michigan State University, 2002.

Red Cedar Conference Organizing Committee Co-Chair, 2000.

LANGUAGES:

English, Albanian, Italian, fluent.

German and Bulgarian, fair.

COMPUTER SKILLS:

Working knowledge of Stata, S-Plus, SAS (statistical software packages), and various Microsoft Office software (Excel, Word, PowerPoint, etc.).

REFERENCES:

David Neumark, Professor of Economics and
Senior Fellow, Public Policy Institute of California
500 Washington Street, Suite 800
San Francisco, CA 94111
Phone: 415.291.4476
Fax: 415.291.4428
E-mail: neumark@ppic.org

Charles Ballard, Professor
Department of Economics
Michigan State University
101 Marshall Hall, East Lansing MI 48824
Phone: 517.353.2961
Fax: 517.432.1068
E-mail: ballard@msu.edu

Jeffrey Wooldridge, University Distinguished Professor
Department of Economics
Michigan State University
101 Marshall Hall, East Lansing MI 48824
Phone: 517.353.5972
Fax: 517.432.1068
E-mail: wooldri1@msu.edu

Jeff Biddle, Professor
Department of Economics
Michigan State University
101 Marshall Hall, East Lansing MI 48824
Phone: 517.353.7862
Fax: 517.432.1068
E-mail: biddle@msu.edu